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May 5, 1997 LB 660, 686

order to have a marriage you have to have at least two people, at least two people. Now, Senator Beutler, I chose my words carefully, at least two people. Now there is a companion bill Now I don't know if LB 660 and 686, where analogized to human beings, whether they would be the kind marriage that Senator Jensen approves of or the kind that I would try to make sure is allowable, but in any case I'm looking language in LB 686 and in the Enrollment and amendments. On page 2, in lines 14 and 16, this is what I read: "All providers of telecommunications services should make an equitable and nondiscriminatory contribution to the preservation and advancement of universal service". When I read the language in LB 686 and this language in LB 660, I think that my amendment would bring the two together. So what my amendment would do is to strike the word "may" in line 25 and insert... I would strike "may require any", those three words, and I would insert "shall require every". So instead of leaving it to the commission's discretion as to which providers will contribute to this fund or whether any of them will contribute, my language would say the commission shall require every provider to contribute to this universal service mechanism, and the mechanism universal, that Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund, that is the mechanism that is created in LB 686. will flow into that fund and the money is going to come from these providers. So what my language would do in LB 660 bring it in line with 686. I learn from Senator Kristensen. pointed out that an amendment adopted this morning, which had not been adopted at the time I drafted my prior amendment, which would allow a finding of no competition if a previous finding had been that there is competition, therefore a safety net existed. I will tailgate on that and say that the last time we considered LB 686 it became clear that the intent is to have all of these providers contribute to this Universal Services Fund. Now we are considering LB 660 for the second time. Considering LB 660 this second time allows us to take into consideration what we had put into LB 686. Unless I am mistaken, it is the intent to have all providers contribute to this fund. mistaken and it's to be left strictly to the discretion of the Public Service Commission, how will a determination be made of which providers will contribute? If you force some to others not to, can you unbalance the free-market competition which these two bills supposedly are about? To make as